

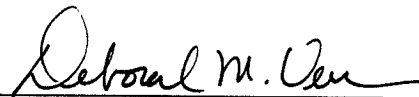
REMARKS

In this Second Preliminary Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to correct editorial errors that occurred during translation of the priority documents into English. Specifically, Applicants have amended claim 1, to replace the “=” with either “≤” or “≥” according to the priority document. To support these amendments to claim 1, Applicant points to the copy of international application no. PCT/EP2005/01163 submitted together with the English language specification to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 29, 2005. In the international application (which was filed in German) the symbols “≤” and “≥” were clearly utilized, and unfortunately during the translational process these symbols were copied incorrectly as “=.” To correct this error, Applicant has amended claim 1 to replace “=” with the appropriate symbol according to the priority documents. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been introduced.

In addition to the claim amendments described above, Applicant has amended claims 11, 12, and 19-21 to conform with accepted U.S. practice. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been introduced.

Applicant has amended the Specification in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 (b)(3) by Substitute Specification to correct the editing errors described above and to conform the Specification to U.S. patent practice. The Applicant requests that the Specification be replaced by the clean Substitute Specification. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been introduced by these changes.

Respectfully submitted,



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